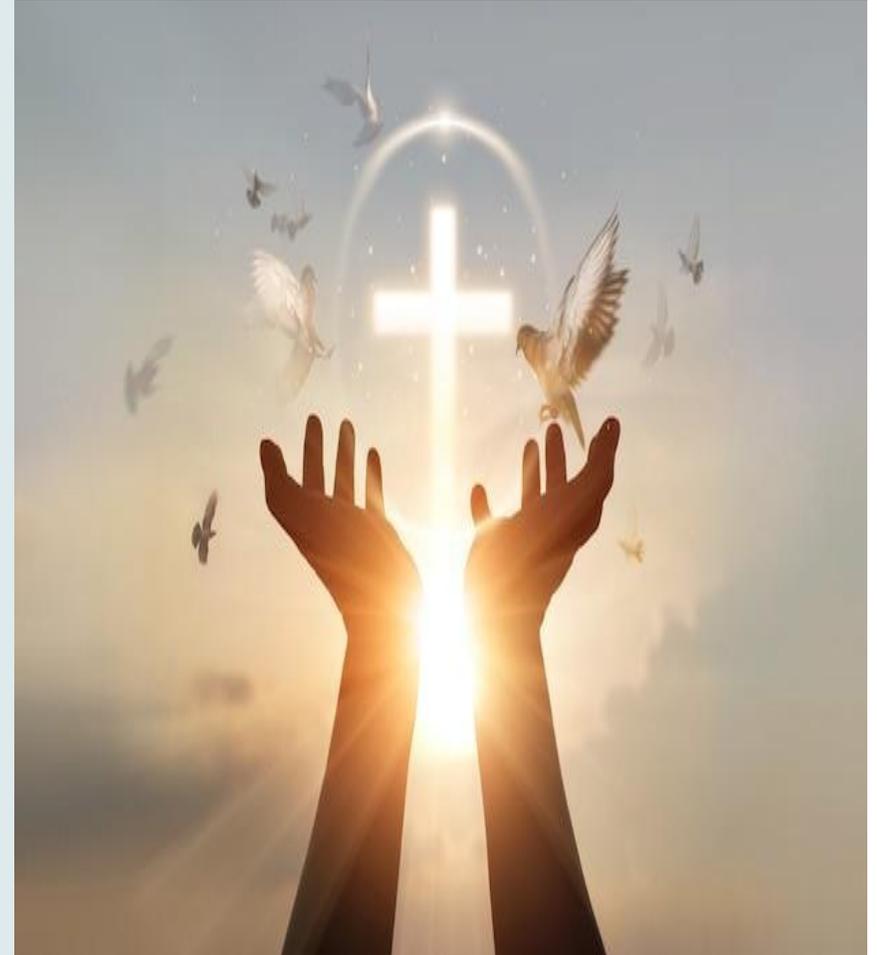


APOLOGETICS & BIBLICAL PROPHECY





PRAYER



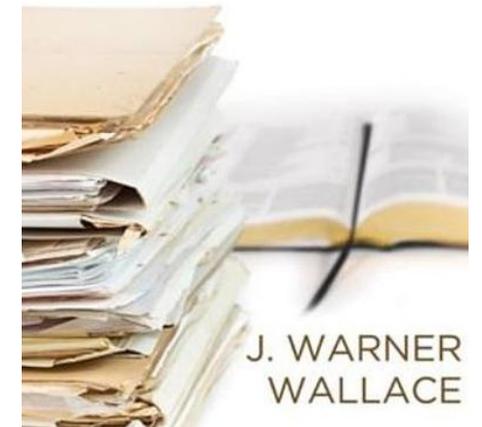
APOLOGETICS

COLD CASE CHRISTIANITY

J. Warner Wallace

TAUGHT ME THAT THERE ARE 2 GREAT REASONS TO BE A STUDENT OF APOLOGETICS:

1. IS OUR YOUNG PEOPLE – THEIR FAITH IS GOING TO BE SUBJECT TO ATTACK AND THEY NEED TO FEEL COMFORTABLE AND CONFIDENT DEFENDING IT AS MORE THAN JUST A FEELING. THEY NEED TO KNOW IT'S REAL – MORE ON THIS IN A SECOND.
2. IS EVANGELIZING. THE MORE YOU KNOW ABOUT HOW REAL AND VERIFIABLE THE RESURRECTION AND THE HOLY TRINITY ARE, THE BETTER YOU ARE EQUIPPED TO INFORM PEOPLE WHO ARE CURIOUS – THIS IS WHERE MY PROFESSIONAL TRAINING CAME INTO THE EQUATION, LIKE THE AUTHOR OF “COLD-CASE”



J. WARNER
WALLACE

WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT THAT WE
BE PREPARED TO MAKE THE CASE
FOR THE JURY?

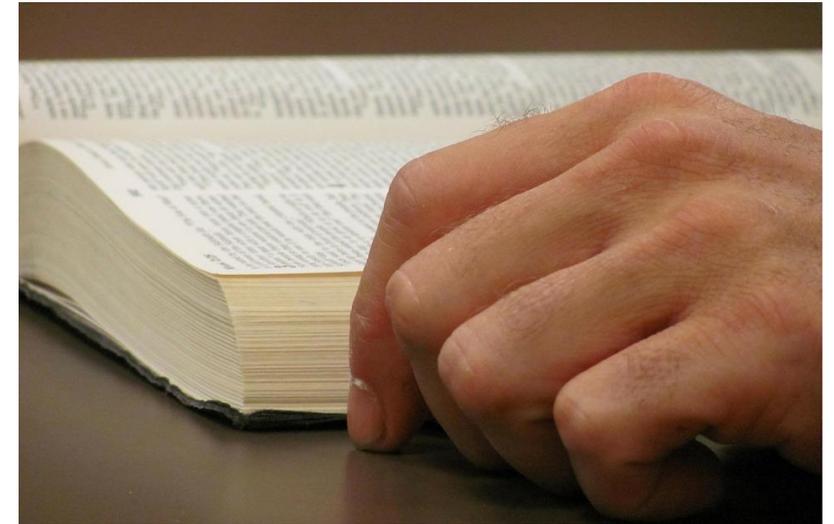


**“CHRISTIANITY IS A STATEMENT
WHICH, IF FALSE, IS OF NO
IMPORTANCE, AND, IF TRUE, IS OF
INFINITE IMPORTANCE. THE ONE
THING IT CANNOT BE IS MODERATELY
IMPORTANT.”**

C.S. LEWIS

BEST EVIDENCE RULE

1. **JESUS IN THE FLESH, OBVIOUSLY**
2. **EYEWITNESSES TO JESUS' MINISTRY**
3. **THE ONLY LIVE WITNESSES WE CAN PRESENT ARE THE BIBLE – THE LIVING WORD – AND OURSELVES – OUR TESTIMONY**





PROPHECY

THE PROPHET

Deuteronomy 14-20
Moses

- ¹⁴ The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the LORD your God has not permitted you to do so. ¹⁵ The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. ¹⁶ For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, “Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.”
- ¹⁷ The LORD said to me: “What they say is good. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹ I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. ²⁰ But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.”

Then Elijah said to the people, “I alone am left a prophet of the Lord, but Baal’s prophets are 450 men.

23 “Now let them give us two oxen; and let them choose one ox for themselves and cut it up, and place it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other ox and lay it on the wood, and I will not put a fire under it.

24 “Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord, and the God who answers by fire, He is God.”
And all the people said, “That is a good idea.”

1 KINGS 18:16–39

FALSE PROPHETS

So they cried with a loud voice and a cut themselves according to their custom with swords and lances until the blood gushed out on them.

29 When midday was past, they raved until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice; but there was no voice, no one answered, and no one paid attention.

THE LORD'S POWER – TRUE PROPHECY

Elijah took twelve stones according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, “^aIsrael shall be your name.”

32 So with the stones he built an altar in ^athe name of the LORD, and he made a trench around the altar, large enough to hold two ¹measures of seed.

33 ^aThen he arranged the wood and cut the ox in pieces and laid *it* on the wood.

34 And he said, “Fill four pitchers with water and pour *it* on the burnt offering and on the wood.” And he said, “Do it a second time,” and they did it a second time. And he said, “Do it a third time,” and they did it a third time. The water flowed around the altar and he also filled the trench with water.

THE LORD'S POWER – TRUE PROPHECY

Elijah's Prayer

- 36 ^aAt the time of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, Elijah the prophet came near and said, “^bO LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, today let it be known that ^cYou are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and ^dI have done all these things at Your word.
- 37 “Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that You, O LORD, are God, and *that* You have turned their heart back again.”
- 38 Then the ^afire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.
- 39 When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, “^aThe LORD, He is God; the LORD, He is God.”

GOD WARNS HIS PEOPLE:

- *“Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, ‘Am I not able, house of Israel, to deal with you as this potter does?’ declares the Lord. ‘Behold, like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand, house of Israel. At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot it, to tear it down, or to destroy it; **if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I planned to bring on it.** Or at another moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to build up or to plant it; **if it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice, then I will relent of the good with which I said that I would bless it**” (Jeremiah 18:5-10)*

- In the book of Jonah, God told him to prophesy to the large city of Nineveh. Jonah was to bring them word that their “wickedness” was so great that God would allow their city to be overthrown in 40 days—unless they repented and changed their ways.

- *“The people of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and dressed in sackcloth [symbol of mourning]—from the greatest of them to the least. ...God saw their actions—that they had turned from their evil ways—so God relented from the disaster He had threatened them with. And He did not do it.”*
(Jonah 3:5, 10, CSB)

**SOMETIMES
IT WORKS**

5 MAJOR PROPHETS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT AND 17 IN TOTAL

1

• Isaiah 740–681 BC

2

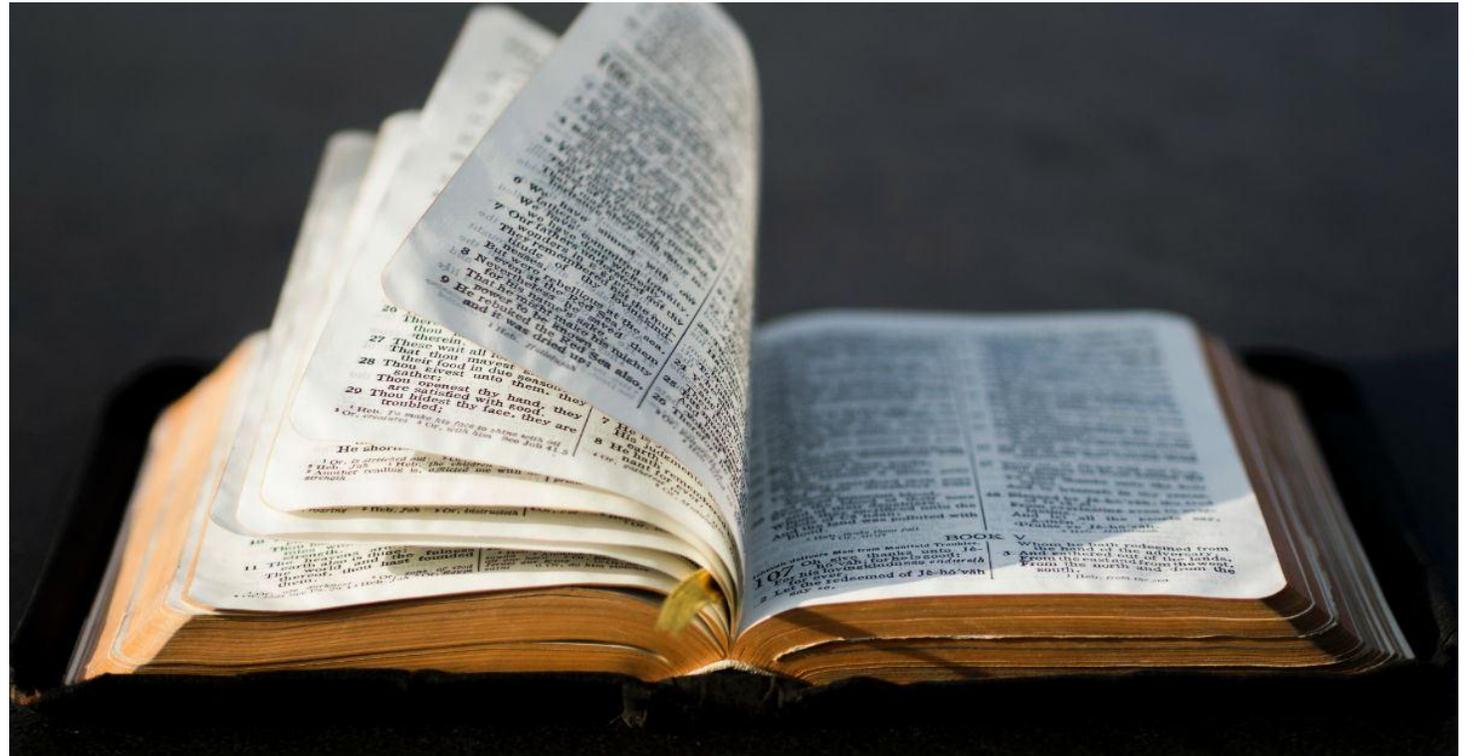
• Jeremiah 626–586 BC
• “Lamentations”

3

• Ezekial – Babylonian
Conquest of Jerusalem

4

• Daniel



OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

PROPHECY SPOKEN TO DAVID:

“When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever” (2 Samuel 7:12–13).

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

VIRGIN BIRTH

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14).

MESSIAH IN EGYPT

“When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son” (Hosea 11:1).

CHRIST BORN IN BETHLEHEM

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.” (Micah 5:2)

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

JESUS WOULD TEACH IN PARABLES

“My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old”

(Psalm 78:1–2)

CHRIST’S PARABLES WOULD FALL ON DEAF EARS

“He said, ‘Go and tell this people: “Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.’ Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed””
(Isaiah 6:9–10).

HE WILL PERFORM MIRACLES

“Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert”
(Isaiah 35:5–6).

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

HE WILL BE PRECEDED BY A FORERUNNER

“A voice of one calling:
‘In the wilderness prepare the way
for the Lord; make straight in the
desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become
level, the rugged places a plain”

(Isaiah 40:3–4).

FULFILLMENT

“John (the Baptist) replied in
the words of Isaiah the
prophet, ‘I am the voice of one
calling in the wilderness,
“Make straight the way for the
Lord”’ (John 1:23)

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

JESUS WILL REDEEM THE GENTILES:

“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight;
I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations.
He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets.
A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.
In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged
till he establishes justice on earth.
In his teaching the islands will put their hope”

(Isaiah 42:1–4).

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

JERUSALEM WILL REJOICE AS THE MESSIAH ARRIVES ON A DONKEY

“Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!
Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you,
righteous and victorious,
lowly and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey”
(Zechariah 9:9).

FULFILLMENT

“A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,
‘Hosanna to the Son of David!’
‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’
‘Hosanna in the highest heaven!’
“When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, ‘Who is this?’” (Matthew 21:8–10)

JESUS BETRAYED FOR 30 PIECES OF SILVER

“I told them, ‘If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it.’ So they paid me thirty pieces of silver.
“And the Lord said to me, ‘Throw it to the potter’—the handsome price at which they valued me! So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the house of the Lord” (Zechariah 11:12–13).

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

JERUSALEM WILL REJOICE AS THE MESSIAH ARRIVES ON A DONKEY

“Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!
Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you,
righteous and victorious,
lowly and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey”

(Zechariah 9:9)

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FULFILLMENT

“The chief priests picked up the coins and said, ‘It is against the law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money.’ So they decided to use the money to buy the potter’s field as a burial place for foreigners. That is why it has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: ‘They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price set on him by the people of Israel, and they used them to buy the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me’” (Matthew 27:6–10).

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

DEATH AND CRUCIFIXION

“Dogs surround me,
a pack of villains encircles me;
they pierce my hands and my
feet” (Psalm 22:16).

“They divide my clothes among
them and cast lots for my
garment” (Psalm 22:18).

FULFILLMENT

“When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

‘Let’s not tear it,’ they said to one another. ‘Let’s decide by lot who will get it.’

“This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said,

‘They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.’

“So this is what the soldiers did” (John 19:23–24)

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

RESURRECTION

“I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

The Lord has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death”

(Psalm 118:17–18)

FULFILLMENT

“In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, ‘Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: “The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again”’” (Luke 24:5–7).

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

NOTHING QUITE LIKE ISAIAH 52-53

- **52:13-15** -

- See, my servant will act wisely^[a];

he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.

¹⁴ Just as there were many who were appalled at him^[a]—

his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being

and his form marred beyond human likeness—

¹⁵ so he will sprinkle many nations,^[a]

and kings will shut their mouths because of him.

For what they were not told, they will see,

and what they have not heard, they will understand.

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

NOTHING QUITE LIKE ISAIAH 52-53

53:4-12

Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by
God,

stricken by him, and afflicted.

5 But he was pierced for our
transgressions,

he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us
peace was on him,

and by his wounds we are healed.

6 We all, like sheep, have gone
astray,

each of us has turned to our own
way;

and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

8 By oppression[e] and judgment he was taken away.
Yet who of his generation protested?

For he was cut off from the land of the living;
for the transgression of my people he was punished.[f]

9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death,
though he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him
to suffer,

and though the Lord makes[g] his life an offering for
sin,

he will see his offspring and prolong his days,
and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

11 After he has suffered,

he will see the light of
life[h] and be satisfied[i];
by his knowledge[j] my righteous
servant will justify many,

and he will bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will give him a
portion among the great,[k]

and he will divide the
spoils with the strong,[l]
because he poured out his life
unto death,

and was numbered with the
transgressors.

For he bore the sin of many,

and made intercession for the
transgressors.

JESUS – THE ULTIMATE PROPHET

JESUS' PROPHECIES EXTERNALLY VALIDATED

1) DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM IN ONE GENERATION:

“For the days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.” (Luke 19:43,44)

“But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near.” (Luke 21:20)

“Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.” (Matthew 24:34)

In A.D. 70 Jerusalem was destroyed by Titus the Roman



JESUS – THE ULTIMATE PROPHET



JESUS' PROPHECIES EXTERNALLY VALIDATED

2) THAT HIS WORDS WOULD BE EVERLASTING:

“heaven and earth will pass away but my words will by no means pass away”

(Matthew 24:35)

JESUS – THE ULTIMATE PROPHET

JESUS' PROPHECIES EXTERNALLY VALIDATED

3) THAT HIS DISCIPLES WOULD CARRY HIS MESSAGE TO THE WORLD:

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.”

(John 14:12)



JESUS – THE ULTIMATE PROPHET

JESUS' PROPHECIES INTERNALLY VALIDATED

“Truly I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.” (Matthew 26:21)

“This very night you will all fall away on account of me..” (Matthew 26:31)

To Peter: “I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “This very night before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” (Matthew 26:33, 34)

“You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.” (Matthew 26:2)



HIS RESURRECTION ON THE THIRD DAY

¹⁸ The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

¹⁹ Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.”

²⁰ They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” ²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

JOHN 2:18-22

COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

¹⁵ “If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth.

JOHN 14:15-17

**SOME
PROPHECY IS
DESIGNED TO
GIVE HOPE**

“Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and He will dwell with them.

They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” (Revelation 21:3-4)



**SOME
PROPHECY IS
DESIGNED TO
GIVE HOPE**

*“Look I am coming soon! My reward is with Me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. ... Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.”
(Revelation 22:12-14)*



THAT IS THE BRIEFEST SAMPLE
OF WHAT THE WITNESS CAN
OFFER THE JURY. THE OTHER
WITNESS IS YOUR
TESTIMONY.





HERE IS MINE

THANK YOU

